

MEDIOCRE WYCOMBE —WAY OFF TARGET— SQUANDER CHANCES

by ARGUS

Wycombe Wanderers 3,
Corinthian Casuals 1

EITHER current Isthmian League standards are sadly on the ebb or Wycombe Wanderers are riding an inspired lucky horse at the moment—whatever the reason the Wanderers are once again heading the League hopefuls after yet another mediocre-to-moderate performance.

In beating a rather poor Corinthian-Casuals side on Saturday, Wycombe looked anything but logical inheritors of Wimbledon's championship title.

Too many chances were tossed blithely away. Too many hearts were in too many mouths every time Corinthians crossed the ball across the home goalmouth.

With Wisbech in view, Loakes Park fans left the ground thinking not of successive Isthmian victories against Clapton, Bromley, Barking and Casuals and of Oxford City's Cup scalp, but rather of what havoc Jesse Pye will cause tomorrow against a persistently hesitant defence and of how Wycombe's toy artillery attack is ever going to beat ex-international goalkeeper Bernard Stretton.

RAN RAGGED

The Wanderers' mid-field dominance, and the ability of wingmen Jack Tomlin and Michael Rockell to run the Casuals backs ragged ought to have reaped goals galore.

The brilliant anticipation of goalkeeper Wakefield was another major factor in keeping down the score, but even he would probably have settled for half-a-dozen.

Key to the waves of Wycombe attacks was another magnificent wing half display by Ron Fryer, who broke up Corinthian raids with a flicker of his boots and sent his own forwards galloping away with the most delicate of passes.

BATES LIMITED

If Fryer was at his peak, Paul

Bates was clearly not. Although he flashed through one or two defence-splitting through balls he never subdued centre half Vowells and had his goal-hunting severely limited.

His other shot-shy forwards had far more opportunities of getting their names in the score-book.

With forward stars Trimby and Meil wearing England shirts on Saturday, Corinthians seemed unable to finish off their swinging attacks with a powerful shot, two weak headers being the best they could manage in the first half.

The Wanderers always threatened to score. Howson sent in one cracking good drive which was blocked on the goal-line and Truett and Bates also went near.

DANGEROUS

Lone first half goal came after 31 minutes when Howson, who five minutes previously had missed a sitter, beat Wakefield with a shot which seemed to unsight him.

In the first quarter of an hour of the second half, the Wanderers played their liveliest and most dangerous football of the game. Shot at from all angles, Wakefield had a hectic time, particularly from Tomlin who was skating round his full back with the greatest of ease.

With the Casuals defence wide open goals had to come. Rockell added the second when he weaved through from a Trotter-Tomlin movement to out the ball past Wakefield. After 60 minutes, Bates, "victim" of a rather harsh penalty award, took an unusually swift pot at goal and saw an almost carefree shot sail wide.

Within four minutes he atoned handsomely with a goal-making pass to Howson which the inside-forward had no trouble in tapping home.

As Casuals recovered, the Wycombe defence sagged. Fisher, Beck and Brown again looked unable to fix up an understanding and with Brown stranded on his goal line, Essex cricket skipper Doug Insole tubbier than of yore but with second-to-none ball distribution, slammed home Corinthian's only goal.